

## JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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THEOLOGICAL DEBATE AS NEW ARENA OF TUTS STRUGGLE, By Goro Tokunaga

Theological issues underlying the struggle between faculty and radical students of Tokyo Union Theological Seminary, running like a geological fault through the churches as well were explored by 200 pastors, laymen and seminarians, who met at Josai Church of the United Church of Christ in Tokyo, Aug. 24-25.

The purpose of the meeting, Rev. Tsutomu Shoji of Toshimagaoka Church said in the opening address, was not merely to oppose the position held by TUTS faculty members and their supporters, who justify the use of the power of the riot police called in to the TUTS campus in March to remove barricades erected by radical students. Rather, he said, the purpose of the meeting was to investigate thoroughly what the real problems are in the seminary dispute and to see where those attending the meeting must take their ultimate stand.

The theme of the meeting was "Evaluating the Theological Problems Raised by the TUTS Struggle," but the evaluation was conducted entirely from the side critical of the Seminary. Those attending this meeting were primarily persons sympathetic with the radical students, from both Kyodan and non-Kyodan churches.

Three speakers presented papers the first day. The second day was given completely to discussion, at the end of which Rev. Goro Tokunaga, Josai Church, summarized the future directions indicated for the group.

Hori on the "Church Struggle"

Prof. Mitsuo Hori, Aoyama Gakuin, Engineering College, spoke on "The Church Struggle as the Process by which Theology is Formed." He presented a critical analysis of why the Japanese church had never before been engaged in a struggle such as is taking place now. The reason, he said was that there had never been a true understanding of the relationship in the Gospel between faith and works. Such an understanding, he said, is a prerequisite for a true "church struggle". The Gospel never separates faith from works, he said. Theology is created by the church through its actual involvement in the world. He urged the necessity of leadership training with this in mind.

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Theological Debate as New Arena of TUTS Struggle (continued)

In an address entitled "Problems in Clergy-ology," Rev. Takeshi Tsuji, Takarazuka Church, said that it was unfortunate that the diaconia of Jesus should have been replaced by an over-emphasis on the "proclamation of the Word." The daily "breaking of bread" has been erroneously hardened into a sacrament with a clergyman as the officiator, with the result that the clergy has emerged as a privileged class of persons in authority. Tsuji pleaded for a return to the original "Jesus of the diaconia," who fights with the alienated common people for the liberation of man.

Sakurai on "Established Theology"

Hidenori Sakurai, a theological student [in the non-registered TUTS faction] criticized "established theology." Its weakness, he said, was symbolized by the support given the Christian Pavilion at Expo and the use of police power at TUTS. "It is our duty," he said, "while bearing upon our shoulders the weight of two thousand years of Christian history, to rethink what church and theology mean to us as 'the confessing community,' this being the means by which we express our autonomy." "This will come about," he said, "as we reinterpret our own foundation in terms of the present situation."

In his summary, Tokunaga said that this group must continue to be engaged in clarifying the basis on which they stand. He described the TUTS incident as an indication of the death of the church as the formulator of theology, the result of its having abandoned the confession of Jesus as Lord. "We must make every effort to establish our own identity in our confession of Jesus as Lord," he said. The true way to grasp this is in the midst of the immediate political, economic and religious situation.

Tokunaga on Suggested Directions

Tokunaga suggested three approaches: 1) to create solidarity among those who are sincerely striving to live out the struggle in their own local situations; 2) to continue to study and train people in every local situation in which they are pressed to search for their own identity; 3) to set up a permanent training center where people can study as they labor in order to ask themselves what theology, in its totality, means to them.

In the Kansai area, a similar type of meeting, with a slightly different emphasis, was held at a Buddhist Temple in Takarazuka Aug. 30-31. Called "A Meeting to Reform Christianity," it was attended by about 100 pastors and laymen from 16 different radical groups.

"CHOSHI GA II" AS CITIZENS AND CHURCH OPPOSE INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS

Choshi is a city of 90,000 located on a point of land at the juncture of Chiba and Ibaragi prefectures, along the Pacific Sea Coast east of the greater Tokyo metropolitan area. Its population is composed of farmers, fishermen, and merchants, gradually changing due to the influx of industry on reclaimed coastal land.

Recently the Tokyo Electric Power Co. announced plans to construct the world's largest power plant, capable of producing 5,200,000 kilowatts of electricity, in Choshi.

But the citizens of Choshi were less than enthusiastic. Under the leadership of Rev. Kanoo Matsumoto, 51, of the Anglican Church in Choshi, an association of "citizens to protect Choshi from pollution" was formed. One day



"CHOSHI GA II" AS CITIZENS AND CHURCH OPPOSE INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS (continued)

early in August, the association conducted a demonstration from the Chiba station to the local government office. Although demonstrations are fairly common in Japan, this one attracted widespread interest because of the growing sensitivity to conditions that disrupt the living environment. Seven hundred farmers, fishermen, businessmen, housewives and other citizens joined the march. Later twenty representatives met with Chiba Governor Taketo Tomonō, presenting him with a petition asking him to refuse approval for construction of the power plant.

The petition stated three reasons:

- 1) if the plant is established, the people of Choshi will suffer the effects of pollution, compounded of the smoke of the power plant and the smoke of the industrial area of Ibaragi;
- 2) the sea will become polluted, and fishing will become impossible;
- 3) the beautiful setting and scenery of the national park will be destroyed.

On Aug. 13 Gov. Tomonō called a press conference at noon to announce that Tokyo Electric Power Co. has decided to reconsider its plan to construct a plant in Choshi and that the issue is now a "blank page."

At the Anglican parsonage the phone rang constantly as people called Father Matsumoto to express joy over the decision. "This is a victory for the good sense of the citizens," he said. "I am grateful that the church became conscious of its new mission and was able to respond to it. The distance between the church and the people has shrunk, and conversation with people has become possible. I want to continue the movement to increase the citizens' concern with local government politics." (Seikokai Shimbun, Aug. 20)

REPORT ON DANCHI SEMINAR

The disintegration of social and personal life in Japan's new concrete communities was emphasized in a meeting of Japanese and non-Japanese working in danchi (apartment and single-home concentrations) and New Towns in relationship with Christian churches. Jack Hasegawa, Toyonaka, was chairman of the meeting, which met Aug. 23-25 at the Kansai Seminar House. In addition to the thirty Japan participants, guests from Southeast Asia, attending the East Asia Christian Conference meetings on urban-industrial mission, participated.

The Seminar grew out of informal discussions and studies of danchi living by persons with a common concern for danchi populations and the church's responsibility toward them. It ended with a tentative structure to carry forward research and the dissemination of information among all concerned with the new communities growing up on the topsoil of Japan.

Prof. Masao Takenaka, Doshisha University, in introductory remarks, said that he feels that lay involvement is the key to success in danchi and New Towns. He stressed the need for new liturgy, new songs of the city, new types of a disciplined life, and vitally new expressions that can counter the disappointment with traditional religions. Christians should meet the anxiety and hopeless (shikata-ganai) attitude of the danchi with a "King Size Hope," based on the One who created this world and who promises, "I will be with you," he said.



Report on Danchi Seminar (continued)

Prof. Eiichi Isomura, sociologist and president, Toyo University, identified the open area before the old Buddhist temples in Japan as the locale of early community experience. He traced the weakening of social relationships with the changing living patterns. Citing the growth of New Religions, he said he did not feel that Japanese are irreligious. He analyzed the New Town as dominated during the day by middle-aged housewives who have increasing time and capacity for outside interests and activities. Because their husbands' time and interests are completely absorbed in their jobs, the women no longer rely on them as the center of authority; instead they are turning to New Religions, such as Sokagakkai, seeking some power to which to give their loyalty, some organic existence upon which they can rely.

Competition Among Wives

"The danchi has become a race, not a place to live," said Prof. Juichi Oyabu, Osaka University sociologist who has conducted many studies on danchi life. He emphasized particularly the anomie, human alienation and disintegration of community life in the danchi. Wives in competition with one another force their husbands to struggle up the social ladder, he said.

Following Oyabu's presentation, participants discussed the plusses and minusses of danchi life. They agreed that danchi dwellers are at least "looking for something better." They were also impressed with Oyabu's insistence that "The future is now."

Community Organization as a means of strengthening leadership was discussed by Ron Fujiyoshi, of the Jurong Community Organization, Singapore. Of special interest to the Seminar were Fujiyoshi's comments to the effect that solving people's problems for them can have the effect of dehumanizing them. Paternalistic help could, he emphasized, kill a man's personality.

"We must have faith in the people with whom we are involved, Fujiyoshi told the danchi and New Town workers. He said in his own organization's work with people, the workers seek to identify basic issues of concern to the people for only for these issues will the people come to meetings and make sacrifices.

Officers appointed to continue the activities of this group, the Ecumenical Group for Danchi Problems, are Jack Hasegawa, chairman; Rev. Masahiro Ishida, vice chairman; Rev. Shin Takeuchi and Rev. Kazuyoshi Kimura, training; Miss Yamato Nagashima, and Sr. Mary Jacinta, research.

JCAN'S NEW ADDRESS

In late October, JCAN, along with NCC Kyodan, WSCF and other offices will move to the new Japan Christian Center, at the Waseda University campus. The new address: JCAN, Japan Christian Center, 2nd floor, 1-551 Totsuka-machi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160.



MAYONNAISE BAND

In these days of the Beatles and Monkeys, no musical "brand name" should surprise us too much. Yet there seemed something strange about the "Mayonnaise" Band," a group of sixteen teenage musicians who practice together at Misaki-cho Church of the United Church of Christ in Japan, as according to the June 13 Kirisuto Shimbun.

The boys, it turns out, were all members of the same English conversation class. It was the practice in class to go around and have each student repeat in succession, "My name is..."

But with each repetition, the diction slipped and slid. "My name is..." "My na' is..." "My-on-na-is..." "Mayonnaise..."

Asked what the name of their band was, the boys iit on this answer: "Mayonnaise."

HUMANIZING THE ASIAN CITY

The first consultation of Asians on "the role of the religions in humanizing the Asian city and its industry" met in Kyoto Aug. 9-12 with representatives from management, trade unions, the academic community and concerned religionists.

The East Asia Christian Conference Committee on Urban Industrial Mission sponsored the consultation, which was attended by persons from 16 countries and included Hindus, Buddhists, Moslems, Catholic and Protestant Christians.

A release on the consultation focuses primarily on six areas defined for further study:

1. What are the goals, norms and criteria for the Humanization Process?
2. What is the Role of Religions to stimulate social change to contribute to greater humanization?
3. What changes are needed in the religions themselves in their structure, their laity and their training programme to contribute to humanization?
4. What international structure could be formed so that there is an international strategy for greater humanization?
5. What do we do about specific issues like Democracy in Asia, Religion & State relations, Youth etc.?
6. What do we do to follow up both individually as participants, locally, nationally, regionally and at the world level?

DEATH OF ANTEI HIYANE

The death this summer of Prof. Antei Hiyane will be of interest to JCAN readers who may be familiar with the historian's name and writings. The former Japan Lutheran Theological College and Tokyo Union Seminary professor died July 10, at the age of 77, at his home in Kokubunji Tokyo. Among Hiyane's works were Kirisutokyo no Nihonteki Tenkai (The Japanese Development of Christianity), and several histories of religion and of the Christian faith in Japan.



MARGARET TAYLOR IS NEW FCM PRESIDENT

At the annual Fellowship of Christian Missionaries Conference, held this year at Lake Nojiri July 31-Aug. 2, Margaret Hopper Taylor was elected president, the first woman president in FCM history. Mrs. Taylor is a missionary of the Presbyterian Church U.S., lives in Zentsuji City in Kagawa prefecture and teaches at Shikoku Christian College. Her husband, Dr. Arch B. Taylor, Jr., is professor of religion of Shikoku Christian College. The Taylors have three sons, all now in the United States--two in university, one a recent graduate.

Other 1970-71 officers are: Vice President, Lew Lancaster, Takamatsu; Secretary, Alan Hoaglund, Matsuyama; Louise Auchenbach, Matsuyama (pending her acceptance). The Fellowship embraces missionaries from some 25 denominations and mission boards. Inquiries about membership may be addressed to Al Hoaglund, 118 Kitamochida Machi, Matsuyama Shi, Ehime Ken 790. FCM is also publisher of Japan Christian Quarterly.

SOCIAL CHANGE AND THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

"Chapel service, Bible classes, Christian teachers are not enough; the Christian school must also teach Christian ethics," a seminary professor told Christian educators who met in mid-August to study "The Christian School in a Time of Change." Two hundred administrators and faculty members attended the special study meeting at Tozanso sponsored by the Education Association of Christian Schools and presided over by Dr. Tetsutaro Ariga, chancellor, Kobe College.

Prof. Toshio Sato, professor of social ethics at Tokyo Union Theological Seminary, emphasized that the problem of the Christian school lies at the point of the quality of faith transmitted. It is necessary, he said, for faculty and students to lay hold of the principles that underlie Christian thinking. He urged the development of Christian art as well as Christian sociology and Christian philosophy. The Christian school should teach what Christian ethics are and clarify their relationship to Marxism, Sato said.

Sato also spoke about the recent movement in the Christian world that emphasizes Jesus's humanity and speaks in terms of the "hidden Christ." He said this is tied up with the change toward social activity of a non-religious nature in Christianity. In the midst of such non-religious activity, it is very easy for the Christian dimension to become fastened to an ideology and the traditional understanding of Christ discarded.

Prof. Mikio Sumiya, Tokyo University, identified as characteristics of the change between the period following World War I and the present: pluralism, decreased unemployment, the advance of information, the emergence of a management society, and the emptiness young people feel toward history and time. He pointed out that Christian schools today, compared with before World War II, have a greatly increased enrollment, less tension with society, and a dual role to perform--of general education and Christian education.

EXPERTS ADVISE AT LIT SEMINAR

Five persons engaged in Christian publishing in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Japan are attending the first Asia Publication Seminar to be conducted by the Christian Distribution Center, at the request of Dr. Henry Bovenkerk, NCCC-USA.

Participants are having an opportunity, during the Sept. 1-11 daily seminar sessions, to hear Japanese Christian book publishers and editors describe their operations and speak on technical problems in book publishing. They are visiting book stores and wholesalers and staying at the Lutheran Theological Seminary.



CHRISTIAN TV PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH FOR TOKYO TOURISTS

Christian TV programming in English will begin Oct. 1 for guests in Tokyo's Hotel New Otani, with the prospect of extending the closed circuit TV coverage to at least six other large Tokyo hotels by April of next year.

Sponsor of the programs is the Association for Christian English Mass Media Ministry (CEM), recently established by five Tokyo churches that serve international English-speaking congregations: Franciscan Chapel Center, Tokyo Union Church, Tokyo Baptist Church, St. Alban's Episcopal Church and St. Paul Evangelical Church.

Officers of the Association, which intends eventually to move into other forms of cooperative mass media ministry in English, are George L. Olson, chairman, Robert F. Hemphill, secretary, Bede Fitzpatrick, program chairman, Thomas J. O'Brien, finance chairman.

Guests at the New Ohtani will hear a daily morning program (7:49-7:59) giving Christian encouragement, news of church activities and aspects of the Japanese church situation, on the hotel station, which is operated by the Tokyo PR Counsel. When the Counsel expands its operations into a network serving the seven major hotels, CEM will have a potential of 80% of Tokyo's foreign English-speaking hotel population, estimated to be approximately 12,000 guests a night.

Support for the CEM's first three months of broadcasting has been underwritten by the churches, but Finance Chairman Thomas J. O'Brien is planning a broad funding appeal for this fall.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK

Christian education-related activities--kindergartens, Ys, church schools and Christian institutions--will observe Christian Education Week Oct. 18-25.

Sponsor of the emphasis, now in its 20th year, is the Education Division of NCC. As suggestions for projecting this year's theme, "Walk as children of light," the Division lists

- special focus on Christian Education in church activities;
- use of a special "Letter to Parents" written by Ayako Miura, novelist, and available from the Education Division;
- cooperative planning of interdenominational programs on a local level, involving Christian schools, kindergartens, Ys, etc.
- participation in national rally school for children and their friends;
- contributions for a fund to be used for emergency relief needs, such as have occurred in Nepal, Nigeria, etc., and for Christian education.

NEW ASSOCIATED NAMED IN NCC EDUCATION DIVISION

The appointment of Rev. John Reagan as associate secretary in the Education Division of NCC has been announced by General Secretary John Nakajima, effective Sept. 1. Reagan, who came to Japan first in 1957, has been working in the Shikoku district of the United Church of Christ in Japan since 1964.

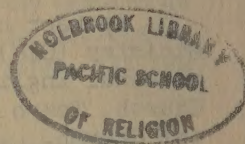
In 1968-69, Reagan was "missionary in residence" with the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, in Richmond, Virginia. He is a graduate of Auburn University, received a B.D. from Columbia Theological Seminary and did graduate study at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.



HEADLINE-MAKING EVENTS

. . . . . compiled by Ichiji Yokota

THREE JAPANESE--A WOMAN AND TWO MEN--COMPLETED A 'ROUND-THE-world yacht voyage on the 2.5-ton Hakuo, reaching Misaki port Aug. 22 after 16 months of sailing, the first Japanese to circle the globe by sailing vessel.



WITH THE LDP PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION APPROACHING, LDP Vice President Kawashima, Speaker of the House Funada and Defense Agency Director General Nakasone announced support for a fourth presidential term for Prime Minister Sato, increasing the certainty of his reelection.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WILL FOR THE FIRST TIME issue yen bonds in Japan, probably in October, in the amount of \$15 million.

A BIG INCREASE IN TELEPHONE RATES AND INSTALLATION CHARGES is anticipated effective July 1, 1971, according to the International Telephone and Telegraph Co. Ltd.'s report to the LDP Policy Research Committee. Ministry of Post and Telecommunications also announced to the same committee its intention to raise postage rates April 1971.

THE U.S. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE'S record just published of secret hearings held in February on the U.S. military presence in Japan and Okinawa appeared to differ widely from Japan government views expressed previously. Opposition parties issued statements and made speeches. In the Upper House committee on foreign affairs, opposition party representatives queried the government on the divergence between U.S. and Japan government explanations of the reversion.

POLLUTION WILL BECOME A CRIME UNDER A LAW BEING DRAFTED by the Ministry of Justice for presentation to the next regular session of the Diet. Justice Minister Kobayashi called for revision of the civil code making it obligatory for the defendant to provide evidence proving his innocence in pollution cases. Authority to control environmental conditions and factories will be transferred to local governments.

NATIONAL TRAFFIC DEATHS SO FAR THIS YEAR EXCEED 10,000 mark, 12 days earlier than last year.

JCAN ANNOUNCES NEW RATES BEGINNING OCTOBER, CONSISTENT with efforts to establish self-supporting basis of operation and services. Dozo Yoroshiku. (Details next issue.)